AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1.   (Currently Amended) A key performance indicator(KPI) system comprising:

a client device user interface component;

a processor component that receives KPI identification information from the interface component for one or more KPIs and generates a KPI document, wherein the KPI document identifies the one or more KPIs to be retrieved based upon identification information received from the interface component and information identifying how to retrieve each KPI, the KPI document including text and graphical display parameters for each KPI; and

a query component that employs the KPI document to retrieve KPI information from one or more data stores, generate a result document, and transfer the result document back to the interface component.

2.   (Previously Presented) The system of claim 1, wherein the KPI document comprises database name, connection string, and KPI name for each KPI.

3.   (Cancelled).

4.   (Previously Presented) The system of claim 1, wherein the KPI retrieval information includes a filter component specifying a subset of data to be utilized to generate a KPI metric.

5.   (Previously Presented) The system of claim 1, wherein the KPI document is encoded as an XML document.

6.   (Original) The system of claim 1, wherein the result document includes KPI values and information regarding KPI graphics.

7.   (Original) The system of claim 6, wherein the result document is an XML document.

8.   (Original) The system of claim 1, wherein the processor component is executed by a computer or server remotely located from the client device.

9.   (Original) The system of claim 8, wherein the client device is one of a mobile phone and a personal digital assistant.

10.   (Original) The system of claim 1, wherein the data store is a relational database.

11.   (Previously Presented) The system of claim 1, wherein the data store is a multidimensional OLAP database.

12.   (Currently Amended) A key performance indicator system comprising:

        means for receiving information associated with user desired KPIs from a client device;

        means for creating a KPI document based upon the user desired KPIs, wherein the KPI document defines for each KPI: a KPI name, one or more query expressions for retrieving the KPI, a database to query, and display definition for the KPI, the display definition including text and graphical display parameters for the KPI; and

        means for utilizing the KPI document to query one or more data stores and generate a result document from the query results, and transmitting the result document back to the client device.

13.   (Original) The system of claim 12, wherein the client device is remote from the one or more data stores.

14.   (Currently Amended) A method for retrieving key performance indicators (KPIs) comprising:

        receiving data from a client device specifying KPIs of interest;

        generating a KPI document from the received data, wherein the KPI document defines for each KPI: a KPI name, one or more query expressions for retrieving the KPI, a database to

query, and display definition for the KPI, the display definition including text and graphical display parameters for the KPI;

       querying one or more data stores utilizing data provided in the KPI document; and

       generating a result document from the query results.

15.   (Previously Presented) The method of claim 14, further comprising retrieving query expressions from a data store and utilizing the query expressions to query the data store for one or more KPIs.

16.   (Original) The method of claim 14, wherein the KPI document comprises a list of KPIs in an XML format.

17.   (Original) The method of claim 14, wherein the KPI document comprises data concerning data store connections and KPI retrieval information.

18.   (Original) The method of claim 14, wherein the KPI document is generated by a component remote from the client device.

19.   (Original) The method of claim 18, wherein the component that generates the KPI component is executed by a server.

20.   (Original) The method of claim 14, wherein the result document comprises KPI values specified in an XML format.

21.   (Original) The method of claim 14, further comprising transferring the result document to the client device.

22.   (Original) A computer readable medium having stored thereon computer executable instructions for carrying out the method of claim 14.

23.   (Currently Amended) A performance metric methodology comprising:

receiving data specifying performance indicators of interest;

generating a KPI document from the received data, wherein the KPI document defines for each KPI: a KPI name, one or more query expressions for retrieving the KPI, a database to query, and display definition for the KPI, the display definition including text and graphical display parameters for the KPI;

querying at least one remote data store for metric data based upon database connection data from the KPI document; and

generating a result document containing metric data for a plurality of columns related to one or more performance indicators.

24.   (Previously Presented) The method of claim 23, wherein KPI document comprises specifying a subset of data to be utilized to generate a performance indicator.

25.   (Original) The method of claim 24, wherein the KPI document is generated by a client device.

26.   (Previously Presented) The method of claim 25, wherein the KPI document is utilized to retrieve query expressions for generating performance indicator metrics, wherein the query expressions are stored in a database.

27.   (Cancelled).

28.   (Original) The method of claim 23, wherein the result document is specified utilizing XML.

29.   (Original) The method of claim 23, further comprising transmitting the result document to a client application.

30.   (Original) A computer readable medium having stored thereon computer executable instructions for carrying out the method of claim 23.